



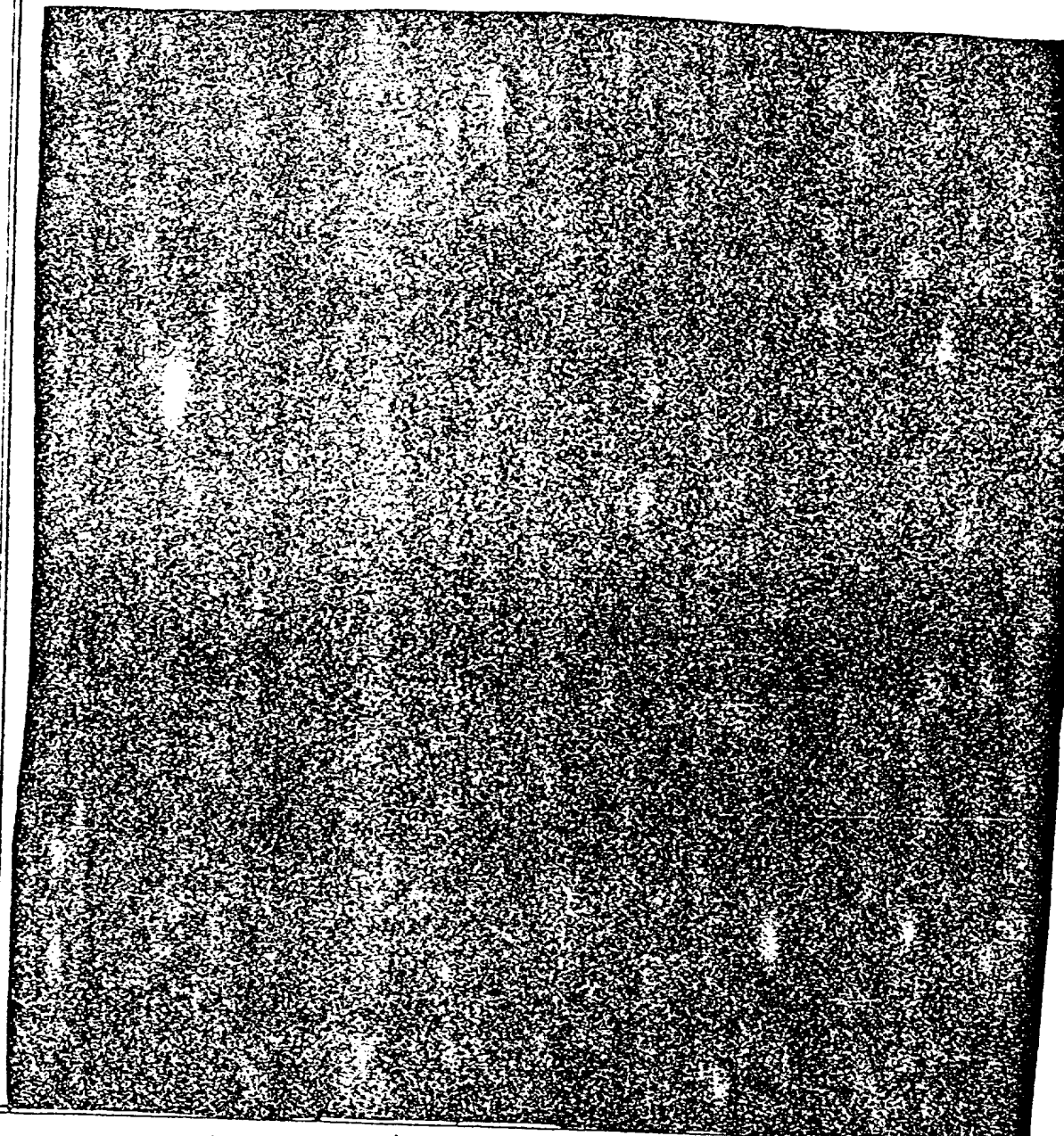
DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

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SPOT COMMENTARY

23 February 1991
1500 EST

IRAQ-KUWAIT: SITUATION REPORT #599



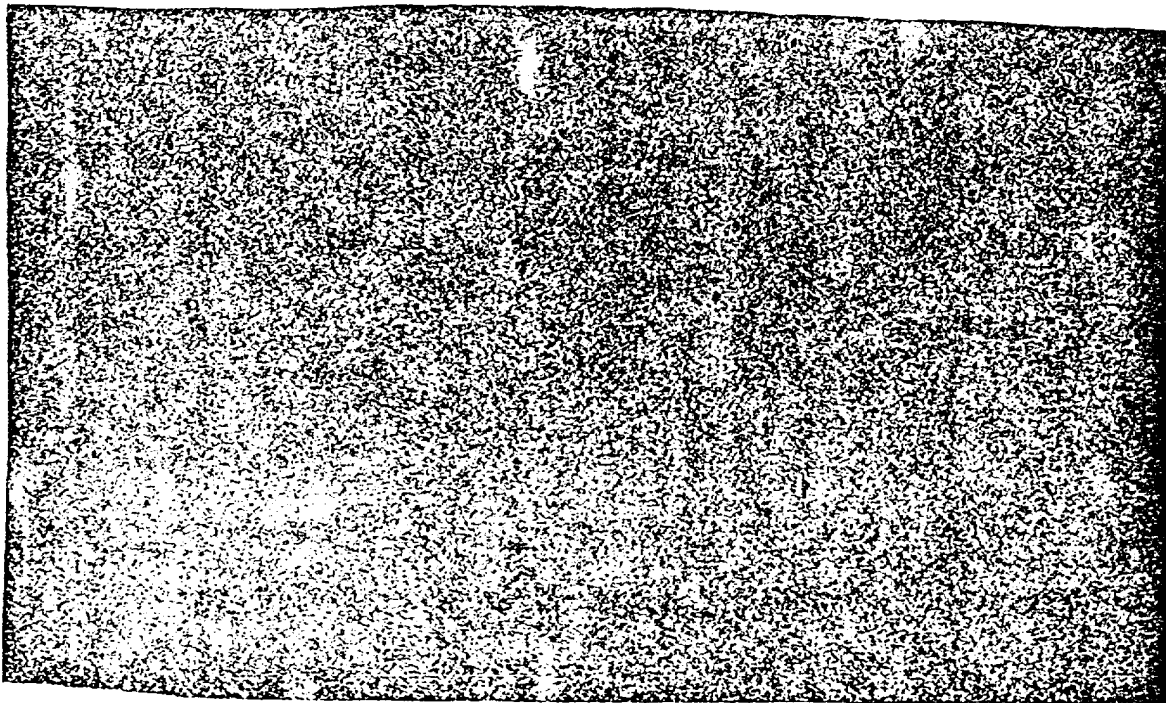
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Political Developments

Iraqi Political Developments

Saddam chaired a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council (RCC) and the Ba'th Party Regional Command earlier today, according to press. Iraqi press reports that the RCC is studying the establishment of a national democratic rule in Kuwait in cooperation with "religious and national tendencies hostile to imperialism and foreign dominance in case the United States and its allies reject the Soviet initiative." Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz departed Moscow today, according to press.

Comment: The RCC announcement is an attempt by Baghdad to determine how Kuwait will be ruled after Iraq's forces pull out. Saddam is implacably opposed to the return of the Al Sabah family and probably hopes to install a regime which would be sympathetic to Iraqi concerns in a post-war settlement.

2
~~TOP SECRET~~

Pages: 3 - c

Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(2)